

Remarks

Claims 46-66 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 46-66 and rewritten claims directed to the elected invention (presented as new claims 67-88). Support for the new claims can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Entry and consideration of the new claims presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 67-88 are currently before the Examiner and claims 67, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 79, 81, 83, 85 and 87 read on the elected invention. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

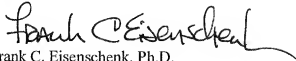
Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requiring the election of a single sequence in this matter. As the Examiner is aware, this application is a national stage application and is subject to the unity of invention rules for restriction. The principles of unity of invention are used to determine the types of claimed subject matter and the combinations of claims to different categories of invention that are permitted to be included in a single international or national stage patent application. The basic principle is that an application should relate to only one invention or, if there is more than one invention, that applicant would have a right to include in a single application only those inventions which are so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. The expression "special technical features" is defined in PCT Rule 13.2 as meaning those technical features that define a contribution which each of the inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art. Additionally, a group of inventions is considered linked to form a single general inventive concept where there is a technical relationship among the inventions that involves at least one common or corresponding special technical feature.

In this instance, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement and assert that the claims are all linked by a special technical feature. Specifically, the claims are directed to polypeptides of SEQ ID NOs: 8 and 10 which are related polypeptides. Namely, SEQ ID NO: 10 is the mature form of SEQ ID NO: 8, lacking the signal peptide located at amino acids 1-26 of SEQ ID NO: 8. Accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested as the claims are directed to polypeptides having a common technical feature.

Applicants believe that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank C. Eisenschenk, Ph.D.

Patent Attorney

Registration No. 45,332

Phone No.: 352-375-8100

Fax No.: 352-372-5800

Address: Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Saliwanchik
A Professional Association
P.O. Box 142950
Gainesville, FL 32614-2950

FCE/mv/sl